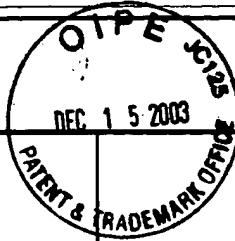


TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.
 16816

In Re Application: **Hiroyuki Takahashi**



Serial No.
10/616,287

Filing Date
July 9, 2003

Examiner
unassigned

Group Art Unit
3739

SURGERY SYSTEM

Payment of Fee

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

A check in the amount of _____ is attached.

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Thomas Spinelli

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Thomas Spinelli, Reg. No. 39,533

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Dated: **December 12, 2003**

CC:

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or P. 57(c))

Docket No.
16816

In Re Application Of: **Hiroyuki Takahashi**

DEC 15 2003

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Serial No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Group Art Unit
10/616,287	July 9, 2003	unassigned	3739

Title: **SURGERY SYSTEM**

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

37 CFR 1.97(b)

- The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

37 CFR 1.97(c)

- The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:

the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);

OR

the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hiroyuki Takahashi **Examiner:** Unassigned
Serial No: 10/616,287 **Art Unit:** 3739
Filed: July 9, 2003 **Docket:** 16816
For: SURGERY SYSTEM **Dated:** December 12, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following reference, which is also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. U.S. Patent No. 6,251,113 dated June 26, 2001, issued to Appelbaum, et al.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 12, 2003.

Dated: December 12, 2003

Thomas Spinelli

The reference was cited in a Search Report dated September 12, 2003 received from the European Patent Office. Applicant is submitting a copy of the Search Report. In accordance with the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(i), per 1276 OG 55, August 5, 2003, applicant is not required to submit a copy of the above-cited U.S. Patent reference. The relevance of the above-identified reference has been described in the Search Report.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Spinelli

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TS:ae

